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SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 6 May 1953

SUBJECT Coal Supply

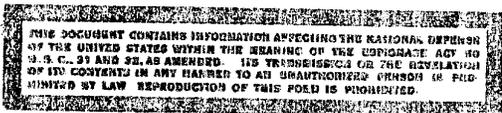
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO 25X1



THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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On 29 January 1953, a conference of persons responsible for the coal supply of VEPs was held with State Secretary Alfred Finz, manager of the State Administration for Material Procurement, in the chair. He reported on the coal supply and stated that the situation would become still more serious in February 1953, since lignite production was short 600,000 tons in January. He admitted that the situation was critical but said that he could not deprive the civilian population of the last piece of coal and refused further discussion. He argued that it was the duty of the managers to secure the efficiency of the plants even with small coal allotments. As evidence of the seriousness of the situation it was reported that, on 3 February 1953, one VEP had coal for four days only.

Comment. The 1952 plan for East Germany scheduled a production of 171,400,000 tons of raw lignite, 47,300,000 tons of lignite briquettes, and 3,274,000 tons of pit coal. The pit coal production plan was fulfilled by only 85 percent. The production of raw lignite and lignite briquettes surpassed the plan during the first nine months of 1952, but was short 9 to 10 percent during the last three months with the result that the 1952 plan was fulfilled 100 percent. Present information indicates that the production continued dropping in January 1953.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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